GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4435
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2001
REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF HOLIDAYS
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Council of India Employers have urged the Government to reduce the number of holidays as recommended by the Fifth Pay Commission;

(b) if so, the decision taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the livelihood of workers under all circumstances is protected and their job security is guaranteed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE II DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE. (SMT.VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a)&(b): The Fifth Central Pay Commission had recommended that the Central Government Offices may be closed only on three National Holidays, Viz., Republic Day, Independence Day and Mahatma Gandhi`s birthday. Simultaneously individual employees could be permitted to avail of larger number (say,16) of restricted holidays annually, to enable celebration of festivals and other occasions of specific significance and interest to them.
The above recommendation was not accepted by the Government.

The other recommendation of the Commission that, except in the case of death of the President or Prime Minister of India, in harness, no holiday should be declared on the demise of any leader or dignitary, was however, accepted.

(c): Under the present dispensation the Central Government employees enjoy high degree of job security, multiple channel of grievance redressal and well defined negotiation machinery to safeguard their interests.